

**Exhibit M**  
**Valuation Analysis**

### Estimated Values

THE VALUATION INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS NOT A PREDICTION OR GUARANTEE OF THE ACTUAL MARKET VALUE THAT MAY BE REALIZED THROUGH THE SALE OF ANY SECURITIES TO BE ISSUED PURSUANT TO THE PLAN.<sup>1</sup> THIS VALUATION IS PRESENTED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE INFORMATION AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 1125 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE TO ENABLE THE HOLDERS OF CLAIMS ENTITLED TO VOTE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN TO MAKE AN INFORMED JUDGMENT ABOUT THE PLAN. THIS VALUATION SHOULD NOT BE USED OR RELIED UPON FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE, INCLUDING THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF CLAIMS AGAINST THE DEBTORS OR ANY OF THEIR AFFILIATES.

Solely for purposes of the *Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Fieldwood Energy LLC and Its Affiliated Debtors* (as may be further amended, modified, or supplemented from time to time, and together with all exhibits and schedules thereto, the “Plan”) and the *Disclosure Statement for Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Fieldwood Energy LLC and Its Affiliated Debtors* (as may be further amended, modified, or supplemented from time to time, and together with all exhibits and schedules thereto, the “Disclosure Statement”), Houlihan Lokey Capital, Inc. (“Houlihan Lokey”), as financial advisor and investment banker to the Debtors, has estimated the values of the NewCo Entities<sup>2</sup>, as well as the FWE I Entities<sup>3</sup>, FWE III, and the Abandoned Properties (collectively, the “Subject Entities”) pro forma for the transactions contemplated by the Plan.

In particular, Houlihan Lokey has estimated: (i) the enterprise value and implied equity value of the NewCo Entities on a going concern basis (the “NewCo Valuation”) and (ii) the Residual Distributable Value (which is determined with reference to the enterprise value of the FWE I Entities (the “FWE I Valuation”) and the asset value of FWE III (the “FWE III Valuation”).

In connection with performing the analyses described herein, Houlihan Lokey, among other things: (i) consulted with the Debtors’ senior management team regarding the Debtors’ assets, operations and future prospects; (ii) reviewed the Debtors’ historical financial information; (iii) reviewed the Debtors’ internal financial and operating data, including the Debtors’ reserves database; (iv) reviewed the Debtors’ estimates of plugging and abandonment (“P&A”) obligations and the availability of surety bonds and other forms of financial assurance; (v) reviewed the Debtors’ asset development plans and the NewCo Projections (as defined below); and (v) reviewed

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<sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used, but not defined herein, have the meanings ascribed to them in the Plan or Disclosure Statement, as applicable.

<sup>2</sup> “NewCo Entities” shall be defined in the Plan as, collectively, Credit Bid Purchaser and the entities that wholly-own it, including Intermediate, Holdings, and NewCo. For the avoidance of doubt, the NewCo Entities do not include the FWE I Entities, FWE III, or the Abandoned Properties.

<sup>3</sup> “FWE I Entities” shall be defined in the Plan as, collectively, FWE I and its post-Effective Date subsidiaries, GOM Shelf LLC and FW GOM Pipeline, Inc.

market data and other publicly available third-party information and conducted other studies, analyses, and inquiries Houlihan Lokey deemed appropriate.

The valuation information set forth in this section is based on the application of standard valuation techniques. The estimated values set forth in this section: (i) do not purport to constitute an appraisal of the assets of the Subject Entities; (ii) do not constitute an opinion on the terms and provisions or fairness from a financial point of view to any person of the consideration to be received by such person under the Plan; (iii) do not constitute a recommendation to any holder of Allowed Claims as to how such person should vote or otherwise act with respect to the Plan; and (iv) do not necessarily reflect the actual market value that might be realized through a sale or liquidation.

In preparing the estimates set forth below, Houlihan Lokey has relied upon the accuracy, completeness, and fairness of information furnished by the Debtors. Houlihan Lokey did not attempt to independently audit or verify such information, nor did it perform an independent appraisal of the assets or liabilities of the Debtors or the Subject Entities. Houlihan Lokey did not conduct an independent investigation into any of the legal or accounting matters affecting the Subject Entities, and therefore makes no representation as to their potential impact on the valuation analyses described herein.

The Debtors' financial projections for the NewCo Entities (the "NewCo Projections") and the FWE I Entities (the "FWE I Projections") (collectively, the "Projections") are attached as Exhibit N to the Disclosure Statement. The NewCo Valuation set forth herein assumes that the NewCo Entities will achieve the NewCo Projections in all material respects. The FWE I Valuation set forth herein assumes that the FWE I Entities will achieve the FWE I Projections in all material respects. Houlihan Lokey has relied on the Debtors' representation and warranty that the Projections: (i) have been prepared in good faith; (ii) are based on fully disclosed assumptions, which, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, are reasonable; (iii) reflect the Debtors' best currently available estimates; and (iv) reflect the good faith judgments of the Debtors. Houlihan Lokey does not offer an opinion as to the attainability of the Projections. As disclosed in the Disclosure Statement, the future results of the NewCo Entities and the FWE I Entities are dependent upon various factors, many of which are beyond the control or knowledge of the Debtors and Houlihan Lokey, and consequently are inherently difficult to project.

This analysis contemplates facts and conditions known and existing as of March 5, 2021. Events and conditions subsequent to this date, including updated Projections or changes to the reserves, estimated decommissioning expenses and timing, as well as other factors, could have a substantial effect upon the estimated values set forth herein. Among other things, failure to consummate the Plan in a timely manner may have a materially negative effect on the estimated values. For purposes of this valuation, Houlihan Lokey has assumed that no material changes that would affect value will occur between March 5, 2021 and the contemplated Effective Date.

In determining the estimates set forth herein, Houlihan Lokey did not consider any one

analysis or factor to the exclusion of any other analyses or factors. Accordingly, Houlihan Lokey believes that its analysis and views must be considered as a whole and that selecting portions of its analysis and factors could create a misleading or incomplete view of the processes underlying the preparation of the analysis. Reliance on only one of the methodologies used or portions of the analysis performed could create a misleading or incomplete conclusion.

### **Valuation Approaches**

The following is a summary of analyses performed by Houlihan Lokey to arrive at its recommended range of estimated values for each of the Subject Entities.

#### **A. Net Asset Value**

The net asset value (“NAV”) analysis estimates the value of a subject company using the present value of the cash flows forecasted to be generated by its oil and gas reserves and other assets.

For the purpose of the NewCo Valuation, Houlihan Lokey evaluated the cash flows (after necessary operating and capital expenditures) forecasted to be generated by the NewCo Entities’ proved and probable reserve categories, and incorporated the effect of the NewCo Entities’ P&A obligations. Houlihan Lokey calculated the present value of these cash flows using a range of discount rates that varied by reserve category. The enterprise value was then determined by incorporating various corporate expenses and other necessary operating items not included in the reserves database, including: facilities and maintenance expense; general and administrative expenses (“G&A”); insurance costs; certain accounts payable incurred by the Debtors and assumed by the NewCo Entities; production handling agreement income; and the items described in the below paragraph titled “Other Sources of Value.”

For the purpose of the FWE I Valuation, Houlihan Lokey evaluated the cash flows (after necessary operating and capital expenditures) forecasted to be generated by the FWE I Entities’ proved and probable reserve categories, and incorporated the effect of the FWE I Entities’ P&A obligations. Houlihan Lokey calculated the present value of these cash flows using a range of discount rates that varied by reserve category. The enterprise value was then determined by incorporating various corporate expenses and other necessary operating items not included in the reserves database, including: facilities and maintenance expenses; G&A expenses; insurance costs; and the effect of the Farmout Agreement.

For the purpose of the FWE III Valuation, Houlihan Lokey determined through analysis of available information and discussions with management that all of the FWE III properties were shut-in as of March 5, 2021 and not anticipated to be returned-to-production prior to their decommissioning. Therefore, Houlihan Lokey ascribed no value to FWE III’s reserves. Houlihan Lokey incorporated the effect of FWE III’s P&A obligations. Houlihan Lokey did not incorporate G&A expenses or other corporate items because it is anticipated that the Plan Administrator will engage one or more of the NewCo Entities to decommission the FWE III properties.

For the purpose of the Abandoned Properties Valuation, Houlihan Lokey evaluated the cash flows (after necessary operating and capital expenditures) forecasted to be generated by the Abandoned Properties' proved and probable reserve categories, and incorporated the effect of the Abandoned Properties' P&A obligations. Houlihan Lokey calculated the present value of these cash flows using a range of discount rates that varied by reserve category. Houlihan Lokey did not incorporate G&A expenses or other corporate items because, in connection with the Plan, the Abandoned Properties will be abandoned immediately upon the occurrence of the Effective Date of the Plan.

## **B. Comparable Company Analysis**

The comparable company analysis estimates the value of a subject company by comparison to publicly traded companies (each, a "Selected Peer") with characteristics similar to the subject company. Under this approach, the enterprise value for each Selected Peer is determined by examining the trading price(s) of its equity securities and adding either the aggregate amount or market value of its outstanding net debt. Such enterprise value is then commonly expressed as a multiple of key operating and asset metrics (e.g., EBITDA<sup>4</sup>, production, and proved developed reserves). The subject company's enterprise value is then calculated by applying the Selected Peer multiples to the subject company's key operating and asset metrics.

For the purpose of the NewCo Valuation, Houlihan Lokey identified Selected Peers based on their business plan, geographic location, reserves characteristics and hydrocarbon composition, profitability, cost profile, scale, and other characteristics deemed relevant. In addition, Houlihan Lokey incorporated in its estimate of enterprise value: certain accounts payable incurred by the Debtors and assumed by the NewCo Entities; and the items described in the below paragraph titled "Other Sources of Value."

Houlihan Lokey did not use the comparable company analysis to estimate the value of the FWE I Entities, FWE III, or the Abandoned Properties due to the absence of publicly traded companies that are comparable to those entities.

## **C. Precedent Transactions Analysis**

The precedent transactions analysis estimates the value of a subject company by comparison to previously completed merger and acquisition and divestiture transactions (the "Selected Transactions") involving companies or assets with characteristics similar to the subject company. Under this approach, the value of each Selected Transaction is commonly expressed as a multiple of key operating and asset metrics (e.g., cash flow or production). The subject company's value is then calculated by applying the Selected Transaction multiples to the subject company's key operating and asset metrics. To the extent the Selected Transactions relate to asset—rather than corporate—transactions, the subject company's asset value is then adjusted by the present value burden of its corporate items (e.g., G&A expenses) to determine the enterprise

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<sup>4</sup> EBITDA defined as: earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, depletion, and amortization.

value.

For the purpose of the NewCo Valuation, Houlihan Lokey focused on asset transactions and identified Selected Transactions based on their closing date, commodity price environment, geographic location, relative size, reserves characteristics and hydrocarbon composition, P&A characteristics, and other characteristics deemed relevant. Houlihan Lokey incorporated in its estimate of enterprise value (in addition to the items mentioned above) certain accounts payable incurred by the Debtors and assumed by the NewCo Entities; and the items described in the below paragraph titled “Other Sources of Value.”

For the purpose of the FWE I Valuation, Houlihan Lokey focused on asset transactions and identified Selected Transactions using criteria similar to those used in the NewCo Valuation, but with a particular emphasis on precedent transactions featuring a relatively high ratio of P&A obligations to reserves value.

Houlihan Lokey did not use the precedent transactions analysis to estimate the value of FWE III or the Abandoned Properties due to a lack of precedent transactions that are comparable to those entities.

#### **D. Other Sources of Value**

As noted above, Houlihan Lokey incorporated certain other assets—which are described below—into its analyses. The value of these assets was estimated using standard oil and gas valuation methodologies and was determined to be less than 10% of the NewCo Entities’ enterprise value.

- *Fieldwood Mexico*: Pursuant to the Plan, certain of the NewCo Entities will hold a 10% equity interest in Fieldwood Mexico.
- *Farmout Agreement*: Pursuant to the Plan, Credit Bid Purchaser will be party to a Farmout Agreement under which it will have the right for two years to present capital projects to FWE I relating to the Legacy Apache Properties.

#### **Enterprise Value of NewCo Entities**

As a result of the analysis described herein, Houlihan Lokey estimated the enterprise value of the NewCo Entities to be approximately \$880 million to \$1,170 million, with a mid-point of \$1,030 million. The implied equity value range is approximately \$690 million to \$980 million, with a midpoint of \$840 million, based on assumed pro forma net debt of \$190 million as of the assumed Effective Date (which comprises the approximately \$119 million First Lien Exit Facility, plus estimated \$171 million Second Lien Exit Facility, less approximately \$100 million of cash on hand).

### **Residual Distributable Value**

Residual Distributable Value is determined by (i) the value of the membership interests of FWE I; (ii) the value of the membership interests of FWE III; (iii) the amount of cash remaining in the Claims Reserve after the payment of all relevant Allowed Claims and Cure Amounts; (iv) the amount of cash remaining in the Plan Administrator Expense Reserve after the dissolution of the Post-Effective Date Debtors; and (v) the amount of cash remaining in the Professional Fee Escrow after Allowed Fee Claims have been addressed.

Houlihan Lokey estimated the enterprise value of the FWE I Entities to be approximately negative \$220 million to positive \$170 million, with a mid-point of negative \$30 million. Therefore, the membership interests of FWE I are estimated to have no inherent value. However, there is the possibility that the FWE I Entities' asset value could exceed its P&A obligations and other liabilities depending upon future commodity prices, financial assurance, and other factors. As a result, the membership interests of FWE I do have option value, which Houlihan Lokey estimated using a Black-Scholes analysis. Houlihan Lokey's Black-Scholes analysis inputs included (i) for the underlying value input: asset value gross of P&A obligations, net of corporate items such as G&A and insurance, and based on a development program that is more moderate than the one assumed in the FWE I Valuation and which reflects the FWE I Entities' anticipated development activity given liquidity considerations; (ii) for the strike price input: P&A obligations adjusted for certain types of financial assurance; (iii) for the volatility input: a volatility based on the observed historical volatility of certain commodity indices and publicly traded comparable company equities; (iv) for the time-to-expiration input: the estimated weighted-average remaining economic life of producing reserves; and (v) for the risk-free interest rate: the yield of the applicable U.S. Treasury Note.

Houlihan Lokey estimated the enterprise value of FWE III to be approximately negative \$31 million to negative \$25 million, with a mid-point of negative \$28 million. The valuation range reflected Houlihan Lokey's determination that FWE III has no asset value because its wells are currently shut-in and are not anticipated to be returned-to-production prior to being decommissioned. As a result of the analysis described herein, Houlihan Lokey estimated the membership interests of FWE III to have no inherent value and no option value, and therefore to not contribute to Residual Distributable Value.

For the purpose of the Residual Distributable Value analysis, Houlihan Lokey assumed that the amount of cash funded into each of the Claims Reserve, the Plan Administrator Expense Reserve, and the Professional Fee Escrow, is not greater than the amount of payments made in respect of the applicable claims and, therefore, that Residual Distributable Value is not impacted by these reserves and escrows.

As a result of the analysis described above, Houlihan Lokey estimated the Residual Distributable Value to be approximately \$19 million, with an estimated potential low value of \$0 and an estimated potential high value of \$120 million, with such values comprising option value and not inherent value. The non-linear range reflects that the value of an out-of-the-money warrant

increases exponentially as underlying value approaches the strike price.

### **Additional Considerations**

The estimates of value set forth herein are not necessarily indicative of actual outcomes, which may be significantly more or less favorable than those set forth herein depending on the results of the Debtors' operations, changes in the financial markets, or changes to the regulatory framework. Additionally, these estimates of value represent hypothetical enterprise and equity values, and do not purport to reflect or constitute appraisals, liquidation values or estimates of the actual market value that may be realized through the sale of any securities to be issued pursuant to the Plan, which may be significantly different than the amounts set forth herein. Such estimates were developed solely for purposes of formulation and negotiation of the Plan and analysis of implied relative recoveries to creditors thereunder. The value of an operating business such as the Debtors' businesses is subject to uncertainties and contingencies that are difficult to predict and will fluctuate with changes in factors affecting the financial condition and prospects of such businesses.

Houlihan Lokey's estimated valuation range does not constitute a recommendation to any holder of Allowed Claims or Interests as to how such person should vote or otherwise act with respect to the Plan. The estimated values set forth herein do not constitute an opinion as to the fairness from a financial point of view to any person of the consideration to be received by such person under the Plan or of the terms and provisions of the Plan. Because valuation estimates are inherently subject to uncertainties, none of the Debtors, Houlihan Lokey or any other person assumes responsibility for their accuracy or any differences between the estimated valuation ranges herein and any actual outcome.